

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Marc Richelsoph, et al.

Serial No.: 10/730,210

Filed: 12/8/03

For: BONE PLATE AND SCREW RETAINING MECHANISM

Attorney Docket No.: 2184.00079

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above application prior to consideration of the application on its merits, consistent with the instructions found attached hereto: